

From: Jim Patterson
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
Date: 1/23/02 7:38pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I would just like to say that I have read about the proposed settlement, and I am not in favor of it in its current state. The proposed Settlement would have little effect upon the business practices of Microsoft. If adopted in its current form the result will be no change to the behaviour of Microsoft, and yet another prolonged court case in another year or so.

I don't feel the settlement levels the playing field for competing operating systems or office software, and would like to see a much stronger penalty imposed. The proposed settlement does not sufficiently relieve Microsoft of the ability to leverage hardware and computer manufacturers unfairly against competing products, nor does it adequately open the Windows API to programmers.

So, any effective settlement must concentrate on opening up the markets that Microsoft has effectively closed by its use of proprietary interfaces, file formats, protocols and strongarming OEM's.

I urge you in the strongest possible terms to reject this settlement and seek stronger action against Microsoft.

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